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Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

Newcastle Disease Update From Australia

After destocking 1.9 million poultry from 33 commercial poultry farms to eradicate Newcastle Disease on Mangrove Mountain, the destocking phase was completed on May 12, 1999. The next move is to decontaminate and disinfect the properties, which will likely take a month. Next there is a period before a second disinfecting. Restocking may not be possible for two or more months.

As of May 20, 1999, more than 1,800 backyard and aviary birds on 83 properties had been euthanised. Virulent Newcastle disease was found in a sample taken from a backyard bird on Mangrove Mountain. The bird came from an apparently healthy backyard flock on a property situated between two of the eight Mangrove Mountain poultry farms which were infected with Newcastle disease.

Wild birds were being sampled in the area and as of May 20 none had been infected.

Source: New South Wales Agriculture, Australia

TOTAL TURKEY MEAT PRODUCTION

Selected Countries

(1,000 Metric Tons in Ready-to-Cook Equivalents)

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998(p)	1999(f)
U.S.	2239	2299	2450	2455	2366	2375
France	568	650	671	708	732	700
Italy	269	294	315	338	338	336
E.U.	1405	1568	1638	1753	1784	1766
Total	4041	4285	4536	4683	4635	4648

TOTAL TURKEY MEAT EXPORTS

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998(p)	1999(f)
U.S.	127	158	199	271	202	195
France	87	92	122	117	113	75
E.U.	133	151	175	217	204	157
Total	295	350	423	541	456	403

(p) preliminary (f) forecast

Source: FAS post reports, official statistics, and inter-agency analysis. USDA/Foreign Agricultural Service

French Poultry Exports

In 1998, total French poultry meat exports were up 3 percent in volume and down 5 percent in value. French poultry exporters faced a stiffer competition on most export markets, especially on EU markets, and suffered from the Russian economic recession that started in August 1998. Prices went also down, due to a strong competition from other poultry exporters, mainly Brazil.

French exports to EU countries dropped significantly in CY 1998. The decrease was especially significant in Germany, United Kingdom and Belgium/Luxemburg, the three largest EU importers of French poultry. This decrease was mainly caused by the increased competitiveness of pork meat and the development of domestic poultry production in those countries. Frozen whole chicken and turkey meat were the most affected by this decrease. On the other hand, Spain and Denmark increased their purchases of French poultry.

Exports to third country markets increased in volume but their value remained stagnant, due to plummeting prices. Exports to Russia were especially hit by the economic turmoil that started in August 1998. While French poultry exports to Russia had increased by 15 percent in the first half of CY 1998, sales during the second half were cut in half. While exports of frozen whole chicken and frozen chicken parts practically came to a halt, exports of turkey meat parts were kept afloat, thanks to the sales of mechanically deboned turkey meat, sold at a very low price (at an average of FF 2.28 per KG in the last quarter of 1998).

Exports to the Middle East region remained strong in CY 1998, thanks to booming chicken meat exports to Iran. Exports of frozen whole chicken to Iran went from 6,000 MT in CY 1997 to 43,000 MT in CY 1998. France also kept its market share in Saudi Arabia, Yemen and Oman, despite stiff competition from Brazil. Exports also increased to Cuba, Hong Kong and Sub-Sahara countries such as Benin and Gabon.

French Poultry Export Prices CY 1998

Product	Average	% change	*USD/lb equiv
	Price Export (FF/kg)		
Frozen whole chicken	6.63	- 13%	.51
Fresh whole chicken	11.37	- 6 %	.87
Fresh ckicken parts	21.71	+ 9 %	1.67
Frozen chicken parts	9.02	- 3 %	.69
Fresh turkey parts	19.63	0 %	1.51
Frozen turkey parts	7.49	- 12 %	.60
(Source French customs / ITAVI)			

(Source French customs / ITAVI)

Source: USDA/Foreign Agricultural Service

*Using 1998 average of 5.897 French Francs per U.S. Dollar.

In 1997 the FF exchange averaged 5.833 and in 1998 5.897.

In 1999 the FF was pegged to the Euro.

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INSPECTED EGG PRODUCTS**U.S. Exports to Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)**

	Week Ending May 22, 1999		Year-To-Date	
Type	1999	1998 /1	1999	1998
Liquid	438	48	5,645	5,020
Frozen	0	0	6	50
Dried	0	0	174	217
Total	438	48	5,825	5,287

U.S. Imports From Canada, in Pounds (Preliminary)

	Week Ending May 22, 1999		Year-To-Date	
Type	1999	1998 /1	1999	1998
Liquid	71	0	1,841	1,582
Frozen	0	0	97	123
Dried	50	0	60	175
Total	121	0	1,998	1,880

Inspected Shell Eggs**U.S. Exports To Canada, In 30-Dozen Cases (Preliminary)**

	Week Ending May 22, 1999		Year-To-Date	
	1999	1998 /1	1999	1998
Jumbo	55	83	310	436
Extra L	1,590	655	11,725	14,800
Large	3,671	2,844	43,344	39,641
Medium	2,195	1,910	19,316	23,316
Ungrade	17,290	3,870	164,489	81,572
Misc	0	0	3,228	1,810
Total	24,801	9,362	242,412	161,575

/1 Comparable Week, to-date figures may not total due to rounding.

Source: USDA/AMS Poultry Programs, Market News Branch in cooperation with Agriculture Canada, Poultry Development Division.

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER INSPECTION W/E 22-May-99
PRELIMINARY**U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED DOMESTICALLY (000'S)**

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
HEAD	2,329	1,356	3,685
LAST WEEK	2,375	1,333	3,708
SAME WEEK YR AGO	2,167	1,329	3,496
TO-DATE/1999	44,152	26,853	71,005
TO-DATE/1998	42,417	24,896	67,313

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
HEAD	442	0	442
LAST WEEK	484	5	489
SAME WEEK YR AGO	549	0	549
TO-DATE/1999	9,740	137	9,877
TO-DATE/1998	11,388	191	11,579

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, PLTRY DEVELOPMENT DIV.

TOTAL U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN THE U.S. AND CANADA

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
HEAD	2,771	1,356	4,127
LAST WEEK	2,859	1,338	4,197
SAME WEEK YR AGO	2,716	1,329	4,045
TO-DATE/1999	53,892	26,990	80,882
TO-DATE/1998	53,805	25,087	78,892

CENTRAL REGION PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND FOR DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS. May 28, 1999

CHICKEN PRICES

	-----FROZEN-----		-----FRESH-----	
FAT	FOB	DELIVERED	FOB	DELIVERED
CONTENT	DOCK		DOCK	
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	-	19.00	15.00	-
WTD AVERAGE		19.00	15.00	

81,600 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.

CHICKEN PRICES. WITH ADDED SKIN

15% OR LESS				
RANGE	-	-	-	15.00
WTD AVERAGE				15.00

163,200 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.

15-20%				
RANGE	10.00-12.00	13.00-15.00	8.00-12.50	12.00-13.00
WTD AVERAGE	11.00	14.00	9.79	12.79

2,672,400 pounds, this includes 408,000 pounds for export shipment.

20% OR MORE				
RANGE	-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE				

0 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.

* INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING STATES: AL, AR, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MI, MN, MO, MS, ND, NE, OK, OH, SD, TN, TX, WI

EASTERN REGION PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND FOR DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS. May 28, 1999

CHICKEN PRICES

	-----FROZEN-----		-----FRESH-----	
FAT	FOB	DELIVERED	FOB	DELIVERED
CONTENT	DOCK		DOCK	
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	14.00-15.50	15.00	13.40-17.00	17.00
WTD AVERAGE	14.93	15.00	15.96	17.00

1,096,600 pounds, this includes 320,000 pounds for export shipment.

CHICKEN PRICES. WITH ADDED SKIN

15% OR LESS				
RANGE	14.00	-	-	16.00
WTD AVERAGE	14.00			16.00

242,000 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.

15-20%				
RANGE	11.50-14.00	14.00	9.50-13.00	14.00
WTD AVERAGE	12.59	14.00	11.29	14.00

1,758,880 pounds, this includes 144,000 pounds for export shipment.

20% OR MORE				
RANGE	-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE				

0 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.

* INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING STATES: CT, DE, FL, GA, MA, MD, ME, NC, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, SC, VA, VT, WV

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NATIONAL YOUNG TURKEY PARTS AND BULK MEAT, FROZEN (UNLESS SPECIFIED), CENTS PER LB., DELIVERED FIRST RECEIVERS, PART AND FULL TRUCKLOTS

MAY 28, 1999

Undertone barely steady to firm on frozen thigh meat with product yet to be made commanding premiums over product in storage. Some industry members cautiously watching how the thigh meat prices relate to competitive pork items. Undertone steady to fully steady on 4-8 lb. breasts with trading for June-July, mostly June shipments. Buyers resisting seller attempts to raise the tom 2-joint market. Fresh 15-20% skin added mechanically separated turkey light at best for next week's shortened work schedules. For export: tom necks (4 containers) 15-17, ground drum meat (2 loads) 30, mixed defatted gizzards (5 containers) 60 cents.

FRIDAY, MAY 28, 1999**EXPORT TRADING**

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)	WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICE	WEEKLY VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	14.00-16.00		14.98	224	14.90	2,456
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS	22.50		22.50	40	21.90	200
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM	18.00-19.50		18.75	416	19.08	624
TAILS	17.00		17.00	104	16.57	184
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/	16.00		16.00	80	13.73	600
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	56.00-62.00		58.25	455	53.32	1,830

THURSDAY, MAY 27, 1999**EXPORT TRADING**

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	17.00		17.00	52
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS	21.00		21.00	120
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM		W	19.50	104
TAILS		W	16.00	80
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/	14.00		14.00	40
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	49.00-56.00		50.53	647

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26, 1999**EXPORT TRADING**

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	13.00-15.00		14.73	1,928
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS		M	24.00	40
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM	19.50		19.50	104
TAILS	16.00		16.00	80
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/	13.00-15.00		13.33	480
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	53.00		53.00	416

TUESDAY, MAY 25, 1999**EXPORT TRADING**

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	15.50		15.50	172
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS		M	24.00	40
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM	20.00		20.00	104
TAILS		R	19.33	120
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/				
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	52.00-53.00		52.33	312

MONDAY, MAY 24, 1999**EXPORT TRADING**

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	16.00		16.00	80
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS	24.00		24.00	40
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM		M	19.00	208
TAILS		R	19.33	120
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/				
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN		F	51.75	416

1/ CODES FOR LAST SIGNIFICANT TRADE (L.S.T.): M=MONDAY T=TUESDAY W=WEDNESDAY R=THURSDAY F=FRIDAY

2/ Product contains 15-20% fat with skin added.